

Newsletter August 2026

Playground and Sports Field

Since the beginning of the year, the number of pupils has risen to over 150, and the need for space to run around and play has grown accordingly.

Fortunately, we were able to purchase a suitable, large plot of land right next to the school grounds.

With the help of the highly motivated village youth, the land was cleared.

Having their own football pitch had long been a dream, and it was now finally within reach. A bulldozer was then used to level the ground.



Finally, the field was rolled, and the same machine was also able to significantly improve the village road. Thanks to Lameck's good relationship with the local council, it contributed towards the costs - another step towards the strong cooperation we are striving for.

On 17 May, the time had come: the field was officially opened with a big

party and an inaugural football match. The Chikola Boys won 3-0, making the day a truly festive occasion.

The women and girls prefer netball, for which there is also space. We would especially like to plant trees, but first we need to plan the further development of the site. A water supply would be important and is already on our wish list. However, we currently lack the funds for this.



Further Developments

Lunch Programme

Easter is associated with eggs - and since Easter, the children have received an egg once a week. For them, it is a feast meal. They are incredibly excited about "Egg Day" and stream into the dining hall singing, "Mayai, mayai" ("eggs, eggs").



Registration

Finally! In June, we received the school's official registration. It took several months...



Establishment of an Association

To ensure the school receives sustainable support, we have founded the Friends' Association of Marie-Rose Pre and Primary School in Switzerland.

The board members are:

- Bettina Ley - Secretary
- Marius Ley - Treasurer
- Marie-Rose Ley - President
- Marianne Diethelm - Member

The details of the new donation account are already available on our website.

In Tanzania, the establishment of an association called Chikola Education Group is also under way. Unfortunately, the process is somewhat more complicated than it is here. However, it is important for the school's development that it can rely on a solid organisational structure and that it does not belong to a single individual. Lameck will continue to be my main contact within the association.

Teacher Training

At the end of June, Tekla, our head teacher, attended a Montessori course. She is enthusiastic about it and will, wherever possible, incorporate ideas into the design of the kindergarten, including materials that can be made locally. The entire team is working towards becoming a model school. It already has a good reputation, and it is not difficult to find motivated new staff members.

Visit to Switzerland

At the beginning of September, Lameck Komba and Daniel Haule will come to Switzerland. During this visit, we will discuss key aspects of the school's further development and evaluate the experience gained so far. If there is interest, I could organise an open day, giving our donors the opportunity to hear the latest news first-hand.

Until then, a big thank you for all the support from Switzerland - and asante sana from Tanzania!

Call for Electronics Donations

We are currently looking for electronic devices such as phones, tablets, or laptops that you are no longer using. Such devices would be a great help for our work on-site in Tanzania, and we would greatly appreciate your support. If you have functional devices that you would like to donate, please get in touch with us.

- *Marie-Rose Ley*

Impressions from the Annual School Trip

